

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SEOUL 06587 051211Z
ACTION EA-09

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SEOUL 6587

STADIS////////////////////////////////

EA FOR GLEYSTEN FROM STERN

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MASS KS US
SUBJ: ROK EQUIPMENT LIST

1. WE HAVE NOW RECEIVED PRIORITIZED LIST OF 30 MAJOR ITEMS OF MILITARY EQUIPMENT THE ROK SEEKS TO OBTAIN IN THE TROOP WITHDRAWAL COMPENSATION PACKAGE. THIS LIST, COMPILED BY THE ROK SIDE, HAS BEEN WORKED OVER WITH THEM BY THE UNC AND REPRESENTS CONSIDERABLE NEGOTIATING, ALTHOUGH IT STILL CONTAINS SOME NON-AGREED ITEMS, SPECIFICALLY LANCE AND STINGER MISSILES. IT ALSO PROVIDES AN INCREASE OF ROK TANK HOLDINGS BY ABOUT 200.

2. THE PRIORITIZATION IS IN TERMS OF IMPORTANCE RATHER THAN TIME OF ACQUISITION. ATTACHED TO THE LIST HOWEVER ARE TABLES WHICH INDICATE THE ANTICIPATED TIMING OF ACQUISITION, BASED ON CURRENTLY AVAILABLE INFORMATION REGARDING FORCE WITHDRAWAL AND PRODUCTION SCHEDULES. ALTHOUGH TERMS OF REFERENCE GIVEN TO ROKG FOR THIS STUDY STRESSED PREPARATION OF A SINGLE EQUIPMENT LIST WITHOUT REGARD TO SOURCING, THE ONE THEY WORKED OUT INDICATES SEPARATELY THE ITEMS THEY HOPE TO ACQUIRE FROM EUSA STOCKS, THE ITEMS IN THE CURRENT FIP,
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AND "ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS", AS WELL AS STOCKS ON HAND.

3. MORE DETAILED COMMENTARY BEING PREPARED BY UNC, IN COORDINATION WITH EMBASSY, TO BE FORWARDED BY COB MONDAY SEOUL TIME. LIST ITSELF IS BEING CARRIED TO WASHINGTON BY BRIG. GEN. PORTIS, DEPUTY J-3 OF UNC, WHO IS LEADING

TEAM FROM HERE TO PARTICIPATE IN TASK FORCE DELIBERATIONS.
HE HAS BEEN REQUESTED TO GET IN TOUCH WITH EA/K AND PM AFTER
ARRIVAL.

4. FOR YOUR BACKGROUND I WOULD ALSO LIKE TO SUMMARIZE
VIEWS RECENTLY PRESENTED TO ME BY LT. GENERAL LEW ON
SCM AND FOLLOW-UP. HE UNDERScoreD THE POLITICAL SATIS-
FACTION PRODUCED BY THE MEETING, IMPLYING THAT THE
MILITARY ARE RESERVING JUDGMENT. HE MADE A STRONG PITCH
FOR INCREASING FMS LEVELS ON GROUNDS THAT \$300 MILLION
DISCUSSED FOR COMPENSATORY PACKAGE WAS INADEQUATE FOR
A SATISFACTORY PROCUREMENT PROGRAM. HE SUGGESTED
THAT \$1,600 MILLION WOULD BE NECESSARY FOR WHAT ROK
REGARDED AS PRIORITY ONE ITEMS. HE UNDERSTOOD THAT
NO-COST TRANSFERS WOULD BE LIMITED TO LIST SECRETARY
BROWN HAD LEFT, WHICH THEY VALUED AT ABOUT \$250 MILLION,
AND FELT THAT USG SHOULD FINANCE ACQUISITION OF ALL
"PRIORITY ONE" ITEMS EXCEPT LANCE AND STINGER AS WELL
AS ADDITIONAL FIP ITEMS. HE WAS ALSO CONCERNED OVER
IMPRESSION HE HAD RECEIVED THAT ROKG WOULD BE EXPECTED
TO PAY FOR SOME OF THE EIGHTH ARMY SURPLUS EQUIPMENT,
AN ACTION HE OPPOSED SINCE THE ROKG WOULD PREFER TO
USE ITS CASH FOR NEW ITEMS. I TRIED TO DISSUADE HIM
FROM EXAGGERATED EXPECTATIONS RE US FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE,
AND SAID I HAD NOT GAINED THE IMPRESSION HE HAD RECEIVED
RE PURCHASE OF USED EUSA EQUIPMENT. HIS COMMENTS WERE
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OF COURSE UNOFFICIAL IN NATURE AND MAY NOT LEAD TO A
FORMAL ROKG REQUEST. HOWEVER, I THOUGHT YOU WOULD WANT
TO KNOW HOW THE WIND IS BLOWING IN PARTS OF THE ROK JCS.
STERN

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